Requested Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus, comprising:

a scanner to read a document and provide image data corresponding to a document image;

a printer to form an image corresponding to the image data provided from the scanner;

an error detector to detect an operating error of the scanner and the printer that are devices;

a controller to stop an operation of the device that cause the error and operate the device only that did not cause the error when the error detector detects the operating error;

means for setting an image forming condition; [[and]]

means for deciding whether a synchronous control for operating the scanner and the printer in synchronous with each other for every page of document images is used or an asynchronous control for operating the scanner and the printer in asynchronous with each other is used when forming an image based on the image forming conditions that are set by the means for setting[[,]];

a first memory to store image data;

compression/expansion means for compressing or expanding the image data; and

a second memory to store the image data compressed by the compression/expansion means,

wherein the image forming apparatus is controlled based on the control decided by the means for deciding, and

wherein in the case of the synchronous control, the document image data read by the scanner is stored in the first memory and then, provided to the printer and also compressed by the compression/expansion means and stored in the second memory, in the case of the asynchronous control, the document image data read by the scanner is stored in the first memory, compressed by the compression/expansion means, stored in the second memory, expanded by the compression/expansion circuit, stored in the first memory and then, provided to the printer.

2. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus, comprising:

a scanner to read a document and provide image data corresponding to a document image;

a printer to form[[ing]] an image corresponding to the image data provided from the scanner;

an error detector to detect an operating error of the printer; and

a controller to suspend the operation of the printer and by operating the scanner only, completing the read of the document when an operating error is detected by the error detector,

wherein the controller includes:

means for judging whether the error detected by the error detector is an error that be solved; and;

means for suspending only the operation of the printer when the error is an error that can be solved.

3. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the controller further includes:

means for judging a degree of the error detected by the error detector; and

means for suspending the operation of the printer only according to the degree of the error.

4. (Canceled).

5. (Canceled).

6. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

means for switching the synchronous control to the asynchronous control when the synchronous control is decided by the means for deciding and an error is generated during the image forming operation.

7. (Canceled).

8. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus according to claim [[7]] 3, further comprising:

means for switching the synchronous control to the asynchronous control when the synchronous control is decided by the means for deciding and an error is generated during the image forming operation.

9. (Currently Amended) An image forming method, comprising:

reading a document by a scanner that is a device to provide image data corresponding to a document image;

forming an image corresponding to the image data provided from the scanner by a printer that is a device;

detecting operating errors of the scanner and the printer;

suspending the operation of the device generating an error and operating the device not generating an error when the operating error is detected;

setting the image forming conditions;

deciding whether a synchronous control for operating the scanner and the printer synchronously for each page of document images is used or an asynchronous control for operating the scanner and the printer asynchronously is used based on the set image forming conditions when executing the image formation; [[and]]

executing control based on the decided control;

firstly storing image data;

compressing/expanding the image data; and

secondly storing the image data compressed in the compressing/expanding step,

wherein in the case of the synchronous control, the document image data read by the scanner is stored in the firstly storing step and then provided to the printer, and the document image data is also compressed in the compression/expansion step and stored in the secondly storing step, and in the case of the asynchronous control, the document image data read by the scanner is stored in the firstly storing step and then, compressed in the compression/expansion step and stored in the secondly storing step or expanded in the compression/expansion step and stored in the firstly storing step, and then provided to the printer.

10. (Previously Presented) An image forming method, comprising:

reading a document by a scanner to provide image data corresponding to a document image;

forming an image corresponding to the image data provided from the scanner by the printer;

detecting an operating error of the printer;

suspending the operation of the printer when an operating error of the printer is detected, operating the scanner only and completing the document reading by the scanner; and

judging whether the detected error is a solvable error,

wherein only the operation of the printer is stopped when the error is the solvable error.

11. (Original) The image forming method according to claim 10, further comprising:

judging the degree of the detected error;

wherein the operation of the printer only is suspended according to the degree of the error.

12. (Canceled).

13. (Canceled).

14. (Previously Presented) The image forming method according to claim 9, further comprising:

switching the synchronous control to the asynchronous control when the synchronous control is decided in the deciding step and an error is generated during the image forming operation.

15. (Canceled).

16. (Currently Amended) The image forming method according to claim [[15]] 11, further comprising:

switching the synchronous control to the asynchronous control when the synchronous control is decided in the deciding step and an error is generated during the image forming operation.